



**'Held' (video artwork), shown as part of 'Lass Struggle', FiLiArt: Feminism, Class and ART exhibition at FiLiA Conference 14th-15th October 2017.**

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LASS STRUGGLE  
FiLiA 2017



# LASS STRUGGLE

Curated by Alison O'Neill and Jane Hellings



FiLiA 2017  
14th-15th October  
The Institute of Education  
London



## SELECTED ARTISTS

Aoi Swimming and Mikio Saito

Alex Billingham

Amanda Holiday

Anna Mortimer

Anne Webb

Avril Corroon

Belinda Ayres

Carol Sommer

Caroline Milster

Charlotte Law

Christian Noelle Charles

Clare Smith

Doria Sharra

Eirini Kartsaki

Emily Whitebread

Ffion Pritchard

Flora Bradwell

Freya- Marie Port

Himali Singh Soin

Jessie Georges

Jessie Hopkins

Jill Eastland

Jo Clements

Kate Walters

Kerry Baldry

Lisa O'Donnell

Liza Stubbs

Louise O'Boyle

Luiza Porto and Márcia Bellotti

Maja Spasova

Malgorzata Dawidek

Megan Visser

Melanie Manos

Mieke Vanmechelen

Natalie Fyfe

Rachel Ara

Riah Jocelyn

SoftTack

Sophie Cero

Sophie Sherwood

Steph Parr

Susan Plover

Theresa Easton

Tulani Hialo

Vera Ryklova



Aio Swimming and Mikio Saito



Alex Billingham



Amanda Holiday



Anna Mortimer



Anne Webb



Avril Corroon



Belinda Ayres





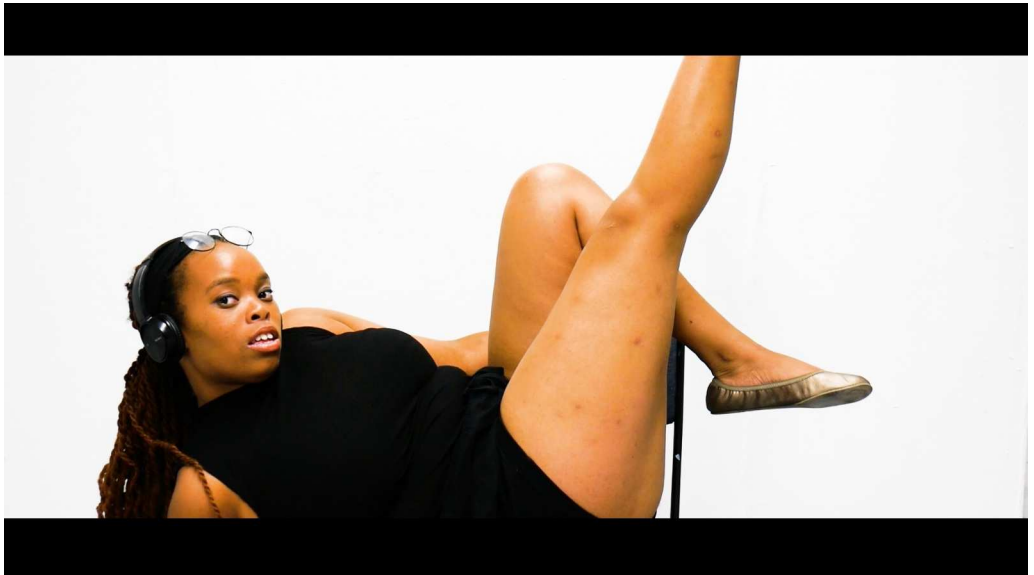
Carol Sommer



Caroline Milster



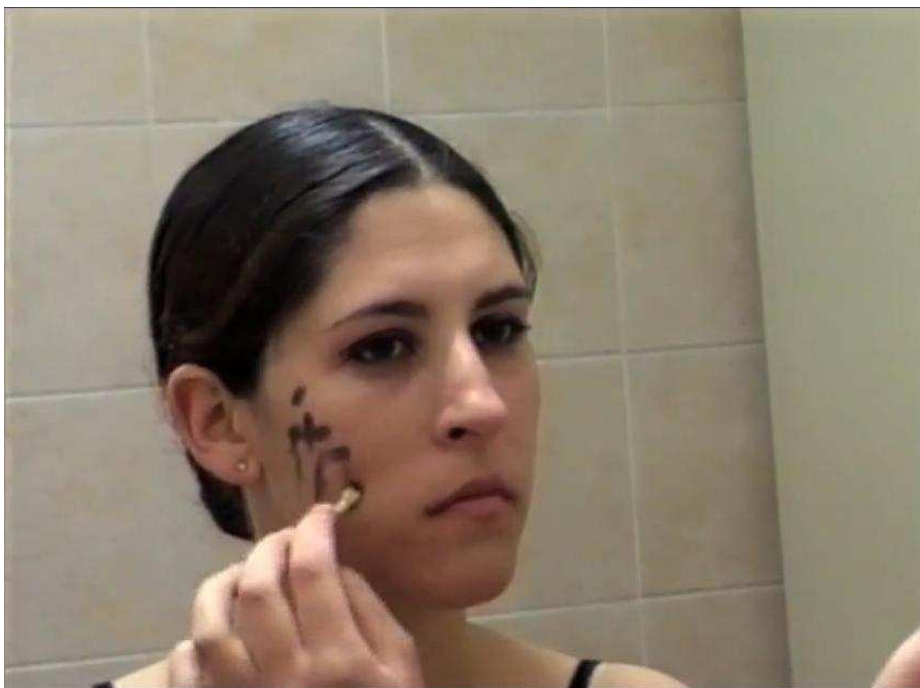
Charlotte Law



Christian Noelle Charles



Clare Smith

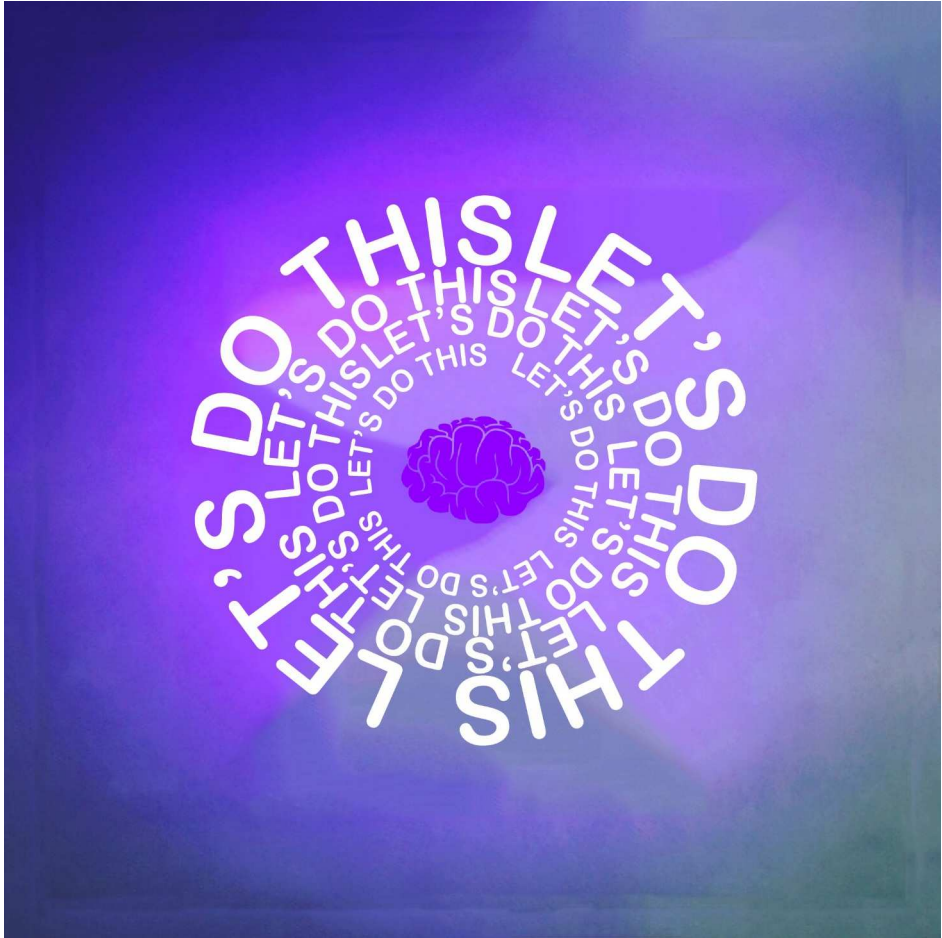


Doria Sharra





Eirini Kartsaki



Emily Whitebread





Ffion Pritchard



Flora Bradwell



Freya Marie-Port



Himali Singh Soin



Jill Eastland



Jo Clements



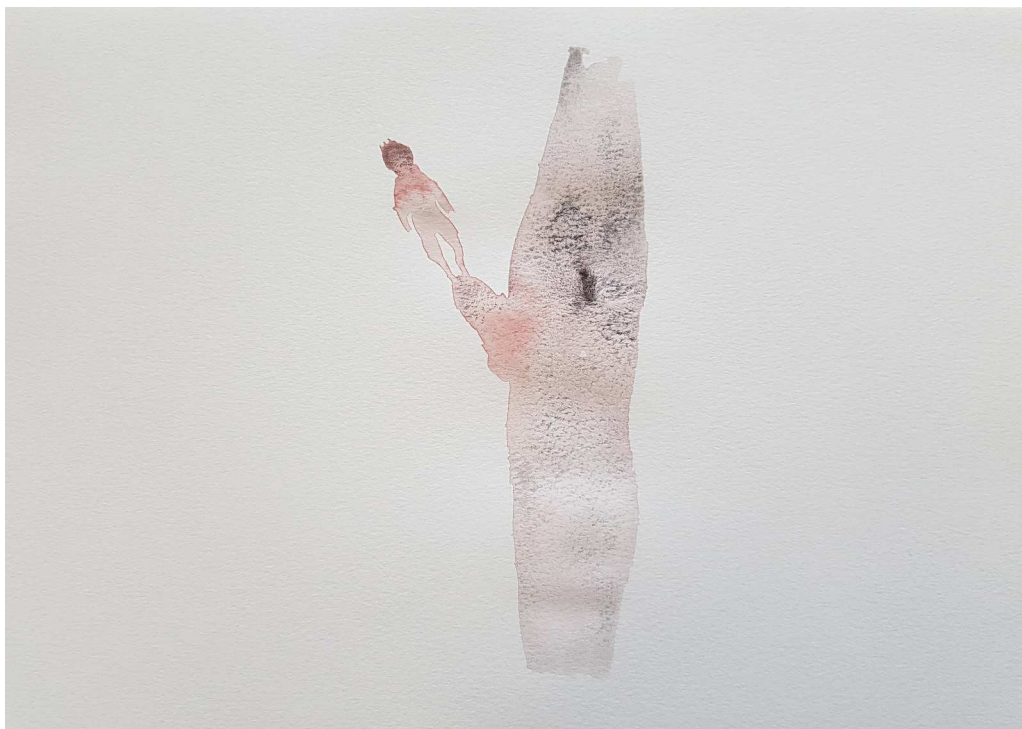


Jessie Georges



Jessie Hopkins





Kate Walters



Kerry Baldry



Lisa O'Donnell



Liza Stubbs



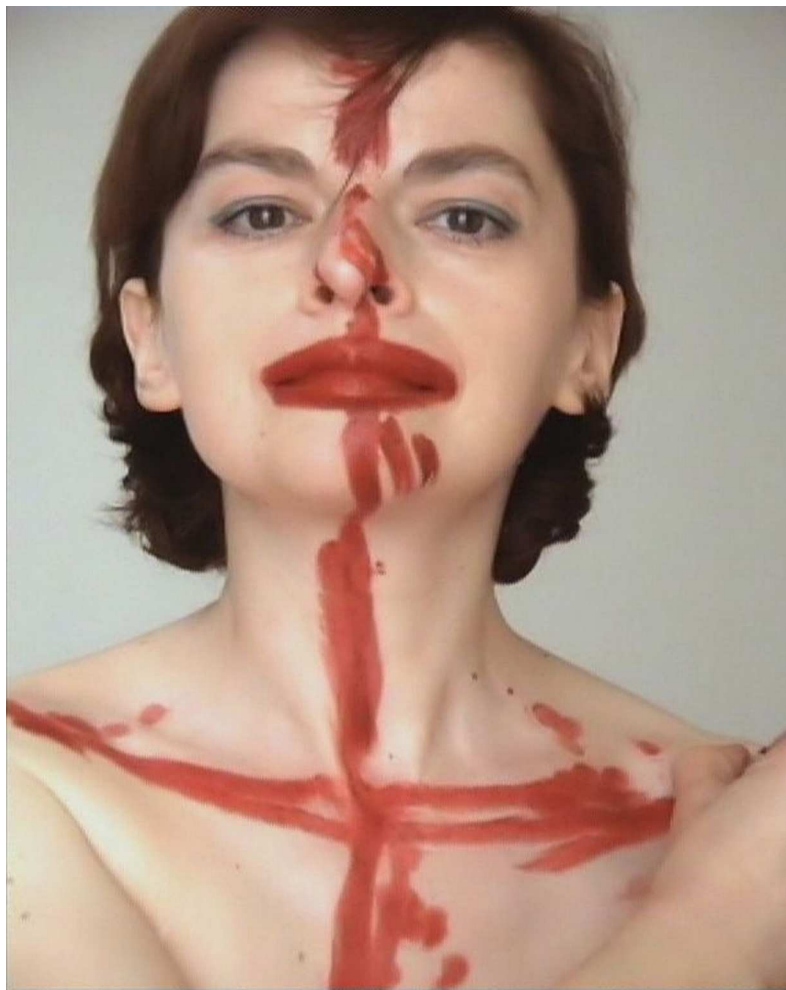
Louise O'Boyle

A photograph of a human hand, palm facing up, with fingers slightly spread. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The word "vermelho" is printed in a bold, black, lowercase sans-serif font across the center of the palm.

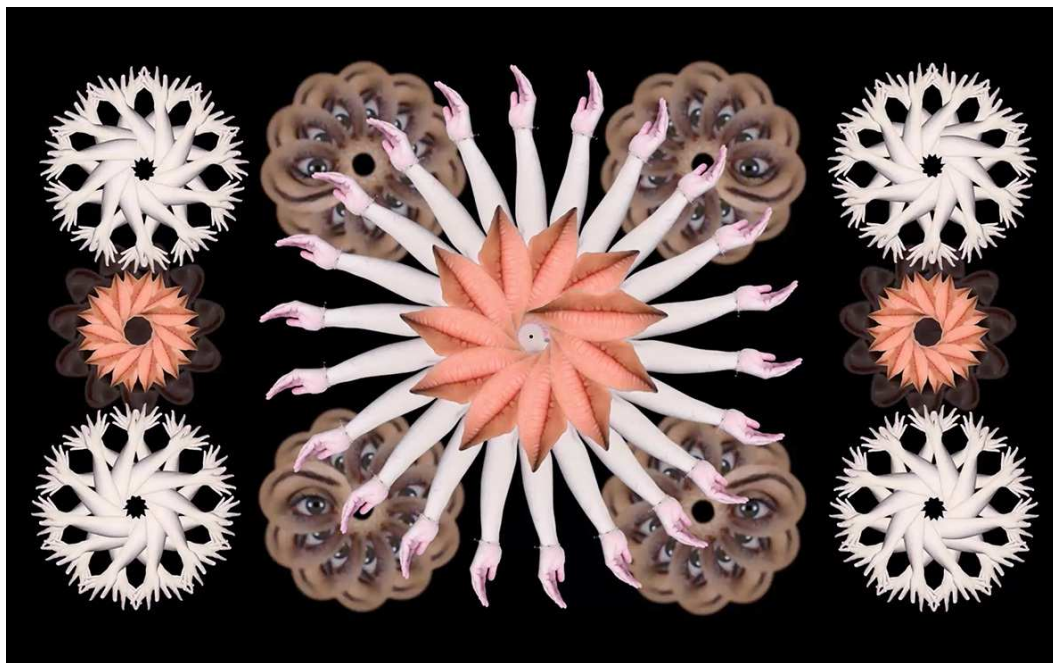
**vermelho**

Luiza Porto and Márcia Bellotti





Maja Spanova



Malgorzata Dawidek





Megan Visser



Melanie Manos



Mieke Vanmechelen



Natalie Fyfe



Rachel Ara

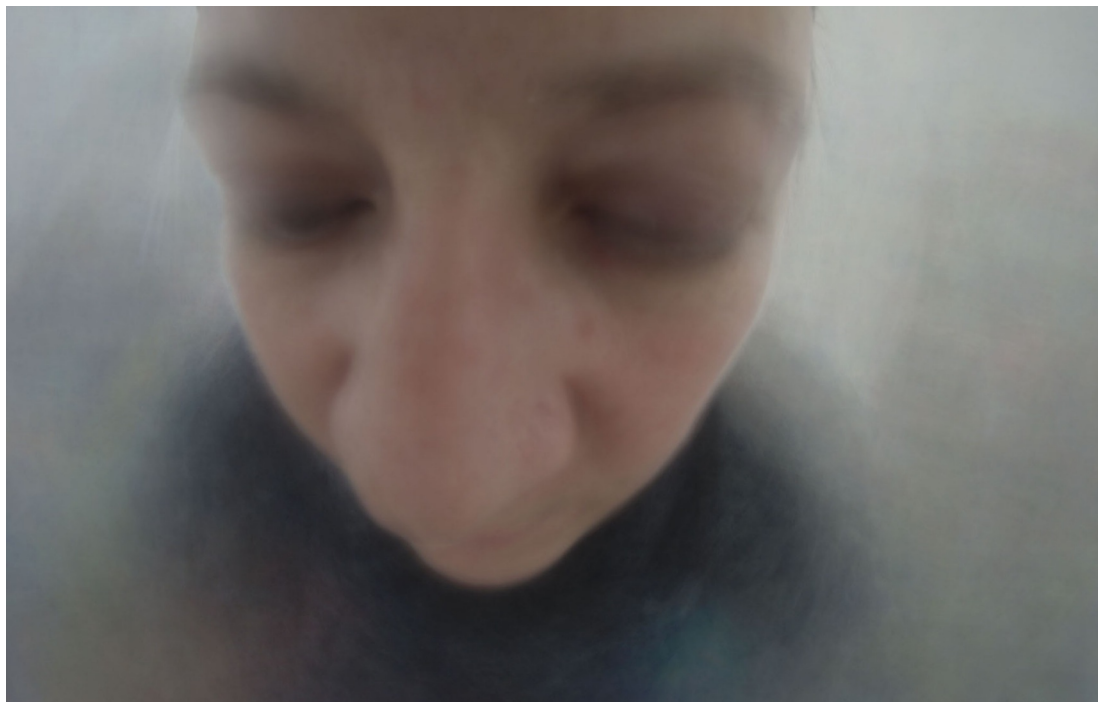


Riah Jocelyn





SoftTack

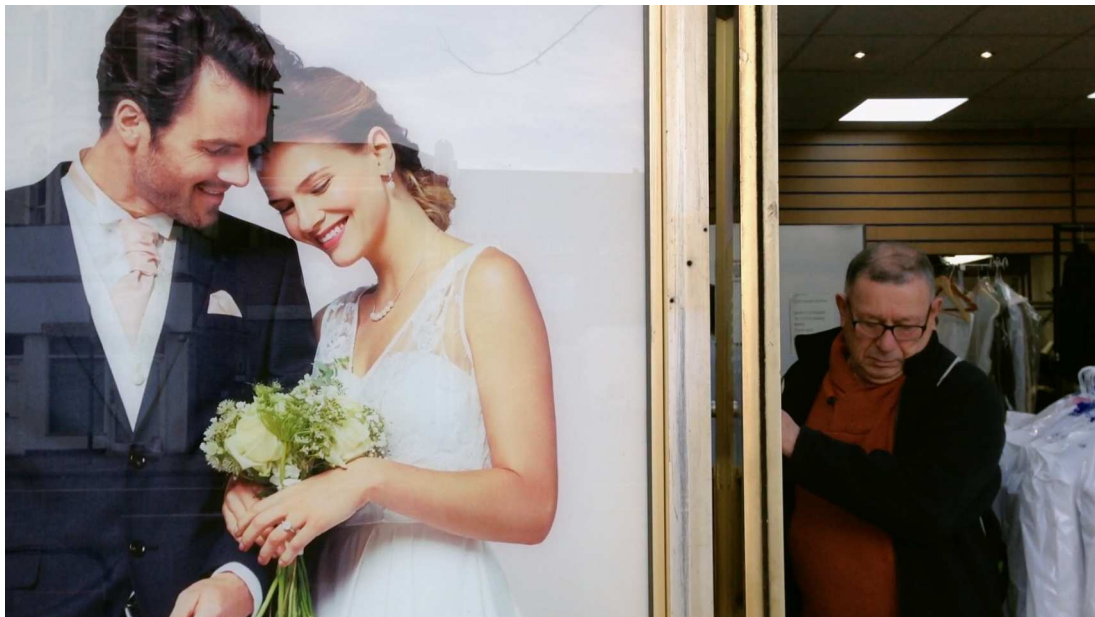


Sophie Cero

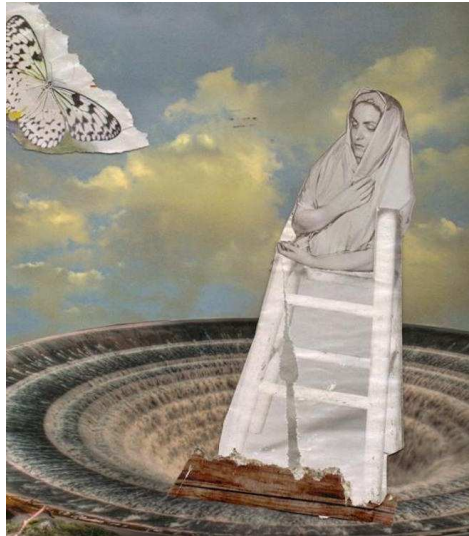




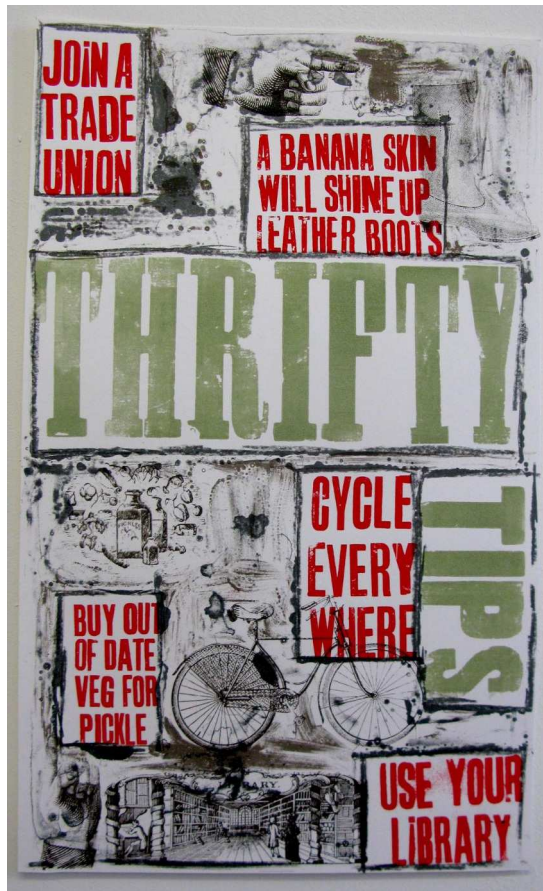
Sophie Sherwood



Steph Parr



Susan Plover



Theresa Easton



Tulani Hialo



Vera Ryklova



## **Aoi Swimming**

Aoi Swimming (born in 1984, Takikawa) is a music performer and she makes her costumes by herself. Aoi composes her rhythm based melodies by using a range of toy keyboards. With a pinpoint power and a huge sense of humor she places socio-political critique in the minds of listeners.

<https://thewindwillcarrythetaste.tumblr.com/>

## **Alex Billingham**

Alex Billingham is a genderqueer performance artist born in the Black Country. Focusing on gender and vulnerability with comedy / liberty and the uncanny informing a lot of the background. Generally binding grunge, glitter and grime together to make beautifully dirty work. Image by Antonio Roberts.

<http://alexbillingham.co.uk/>

<https://vimeo.com/223288584>

## **Amanda Holiday**

Artist and poet Amanda Holiday studied Fine Art at Wimbledon. Active in black political art in the 1980's, she exhibited across the UK before moving into film - directing shorts for the Arts Council, BFI and Channel 4. Between 2001-10 she lived in Cape Town where she made educational TV programmes. The Art Poems will be published next Spring by Akashic books (US).



## **Anna Mortimer**

Anna Mortimer was born in London in 1957. She has a degree in English Literature, worked as a qualified Nurse, has four grown up children and has practised as an artist for 30 years. The four short films that I have submitted typically comment on the status (or lack of) of the older women in contemporary culture. After a 'certain' age many of us become faceless and in an artworld dominated by the economy of money our work can appear to have little value. Yet the digital age has given us all a voice...the barriers are down!!!!

## **Avril Corroon**

Corroon is an Irish artist and activist currently undergoing a MFA at Goldsmiths University. She works primarily with video and performative interventions to critique neoliberal structures and their oppressive implications in everyday life. Recent exhibitions include a solo presentation 'Wish You Were Here' at Temple Bar Gallery and Studios Balcony (IRE), a group exhibition at HMK the (NE), My Brilliant Friend Temple Bar Gallery, Platform Arts Belfast (UK) and NCAD Gallery, and a solo presentation, JUST DO IT at Ormond Studios (IRE).

<http://avrilcorroon.com/>

## **Belinda Jayne Ayres**

Belinda Jayne Ayres (b. 1996) is a Fine Art graduate from Leeds College of Art. Originally from Norththumberland and growing up in Chesterfield she moved to Leeds to continue her studies. The North of England holds a strong sentimental grasp on Belinda which she continuously references throughout her practice. She specialises in both two dimensional and three dimensional mediums mainly through collage and casting which reinforces the laborious connotations that belong to the working class. She also identifies the hard separation of the genders and experiments to attempt to blur the line between the two.

<http://belindaayres.co.uk/>

## **Carol Sommer**

Carol Sommer lives and works in Darlington, England. She uses film, found objects, installation and text in attempts to engage with the discourses surrounding the experiences of women in literature and literary criticism.

[www.carolsommer.net](http://www.carolsommer.net)

## **Caroline Milster**

Caroline Milster recently graduated with a BA in Fine Art (First Class Hons) from the University for the Creative Arts and is engaging predominantly within experimental narrative film-making. Her work focuses on feminist discourse, from a unique perspective; exploring contemporary gender studies, with the connection to ancient narratives, patriarchy and Greek mythology. She aims to reconnect the modern female to a raw power that has been tamed and lost in patriarchal society.

## **Charlotte Law**

A performance artist and sensory researcher, CWL plays with the material world, drawing out the fantasy narratives that drift through form. A frequent collaborator, this work was made whilst on residency in Italy with sound artist Anina Hug, December 2016, and gradually a band manifests. <http://charlottewendylaw.net/>

## **Christian Noelle Charles**

Christian Noelle Charles is a Black Female Artist currently living and working in Glasgow, Scotland. A Syracuse, New York native, Christian's work is an exploration of female representation and self-love in a contemporary world. Christian takes inspiration from today's pop culture, modern performance techniques, and personal experiences. She also derives inspiration as a performance artist from the relationship between performer and audience member. By using the mediums of printmaking, video, and performance her work demonstrates a celebration of self-love and individuality. [www.christiannoelle.com](http://www.christiannoelle.com)

**Clare Smith's** mixed English/Chinese heritage informs her perspective on issues of identity and categorisation. Her nomadic childhood and early adulthood have meant a somewhat ambivalent relationship to place. Smith works with drawing, print media, collage and moving image to investigate this ambivalence, with references to craft, the importance of labour and the handmade.

## **Doria Sharra**

Doria Sharra is an American-Israeli artist, working mostly in drawing, painting and video. Sharra's practice explores the subversive power of pleasure, as it is derived from beauty, humor and sexuality. Her work has been shown in New York, Venice, South Korea, Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, Villacidro, Bologna, Milan and Urbino.

## **Erini Kartsaki**

BAD SHIT: What happens when you dream of being pregnant only to wake up and find yourself giving birth to a bad shit? What happens when everyone around you is pregnant and they only talk about nappies, pushchairs and motherhood? A show about wanting to be who you are, without a big belly. Eirini Kartsaki is a performance practitioner, writer and Teaching Fellow in Drama and Performance Studies at Queen Mary University of London. Her writing is concerned with notions of desire, repetition and the unfulfilled. Her practice has been presented nationally and internationally.  
<http://www.eirinikartsaki.com/>

## **Emily Whitebread**

Working across diverse media ranging from performance and video work to written publications, Emily Whitebread investigates, breaks down and reimagines utopian futures as proposed by architects, social policy makers, psychologists and scientists. Her starting point is how visionary ideas are formalised and presented in dogmatic discourse that canonises particular historic moments. She renegotiates these reductive archives to re-imagine the potentialities contained within the original ideas.  
<http://www.emilywhitebread.co.uk>

## **Ffion Pritchard**

This series explores the discomfort of owning skin. During my dissertation research on the advertising of cosmetic surgery, I developed an interest in the aestheticisation of skin and its removal from its natural functions. I researched the way the skin's natural processes are kept under tight control, and the cultural shame surrounding its natural processes, for example; body hair, ageing and perspiration. I developed the project through documenting the appearance of skin under a digital microscope and developing these images through the use of collage, projections and digital manipulation. Instagram @ffionpritchardartist

## **Flora Bradwell**

Alter ego of artist Flora Bradwell, Bella Lordwarf is goddess, monster, fortune teller and lead singer of anarchic feminist pop band Bella & The Lordwarfs. Other video work includes #BUYMYPAINING and I AM BELLA (Hear Me Roar). Bella's work has been exhibited, performed and screened across the UK and internationally. [www.bellalordwarf.com](http://www.bellalordwarf.com)

## **Freya- Marie Port**

Freya-Marie Port is a young artist based in Dorset. Her most recent artworks question patriarchal value systems through embellishment of feminine hygiene products. The feminine hygiene products appear jewel-like - a direct comment on patriarchal value systems (tampon tax) but also a critique of decor and ornament as 'feminine'. Taking inspiration from upper class Victorian decor. The decor aggressively renders the sanitary products useless and they become ornamental.

## **Himali Singh Soin**

Himali is a writer and artist based between London and Delhi. She uses metaphors of deep outer space as a cosmology of inferences, entanglements, deep voids, debris, delays, irrational law, alienation, distance, intimacy and infinite mystery. Her speculations have been shown at Kadist in San Francisco, Khoj in Delhi, the Dhaka Art Summit, Abrons Art Centre in NYC, ICA in London, OCA in Norway, Fabrika in Moscow and the Meet Factory in Prague, among others. Her poetry has been published in numerous anthologies and she is a regular contributor to Artforum magazine. Forthcoming is her book, 'we are opposite like that' from the Arctic and Antarctic circles.

## **Jessie Georges**

Born and raised in Belgium, Jessie Georges is from both sides of the country where Roman and German culture come together. She always felt like she did not fit in and uses that feeling to observe both cultures' reaction towards people outside of the norm. Memory, tradition and mental structures are the starting point for the development of her work.

[jessiegeorges.wordpress.com](http://jessiegeorges.wordpress.com)

## **Jessie Hopkins**

Jessie Hopkins is a Visual Artist living and working in Dublin City. Hopkins received a BA (Hons) Degree in Fine Art Printmaking and Visual Culture in 2016 from the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. Currently completing her Masters Degree, her practice draws influence from the body and how society's perception of the natural body and displaced ownership can lead to a certain performance of being.

## **Jill Eastland**

I am an activist and an artist. My work is motivated by political issues of concern to me, including gender, race and class inequality. I am a founder and organiser of Rebel Arts, which is an arts and activist group, which organises fundraising gigs, poetry events, protest art and a regular community radio show. <https://jilleastland.wordpress.com/>

## **Jo Clements**

Jo Clements work includes film, installation, constructed forms and virtual reality. Her humorous, often theatrical imaginings along with a playful, irreverent approach to making, result in fictional presentations and installations that suggest connections and meaning even when there are none. She is currently based at Caustic Coastal studios, Manchester. <http://www.joclements.co.uk> twitter: @ClementsJo

## **Kate Walters**

Kate studied Fine Art in London, Brighton and Falmouth. Based in Cornwall she explores wild places through residencies in Scotland's Northern and Western Isles, and Italian National Parks, finding inspiration for her work. Her work has been exhibited in the Jerwood Drawing exhibitions, Royal Academy, Discerning Eye and Newlyn Art Gallery. An exhibition of her work will open on October 17th at Herrick Gallery, Mayfair. [www.katewalters.co.uk](http://www.katewalters.co.uk) [www.katewalters.co.uk/blog](http://www.katewalters.co.uk/blog)



## **Kerry Baldry**

Kerry Baldry works in a range of media including film and video.

Aspects of the human condition are recurrent themes in her work. Her films and videos have been screened at international film festivals and galleries, online and on TV. Earlier this year her work was selected for REDboard artists work on billboards a Hull City of Culture 2017 project and currently her film 'Deity' is screening as part of Empire II at The Venice Biennale. [www.kerrybaldry.com](http://www.kerrybaldry.com)  
<http://kerrybaldry.com/blog/4568387962>

## **Lisa O'Donnell**

Lisa O'Donnell completed a BA Fine Art at The Centre for Creative Arts and Media Galway, 2010 and MA Fine Art at Central Saint Martins, London, 2013. Her paintings explore the mnemonic possibilities of painting, focusing on archived photographic images exploring personal experiences and history entwined in the broader social/historical context.  
[www.lisaodonnellartist.com](http://www.lisaodonnellartist.com)

## **Liza Stubbs**

Photographer Liza Stubbs, has spent many years, making portraits of everyday women in everyday situations.

## **Louise O'Boyle**

Louise is a Lecturer in Art & Design at Belfast School of Art, Ulster University. Her arts practice focuses on the relationship between arts, health and wellbeing. Current work includes challenging attitudes towards mental ill health and the promotion of emotional wellbeing through socially engaged practices; and creating visual narratives informed by bioethical discourses on end of life care in the articulation of patient narratives as they live through the process of dying.

<http://www.louiseoboyle.com>

## **Luiza Porto and Márcia Bellotti**

Luiza Porto and Márcia Bellotti | Multidisciplinary collaborative art duo from Brazil. Our intention is to use multiple artistic materials to incite reflections on the ethical and aesthetical structures of normativity, the standards under which we are raised, our culture (western contemporary) and the limits imposed on us throughout history.

<http://www.marciabellotti.com>

## **Maja Spasova**

Maja Spasova has been presented at international exhibitions and festivals i.e. Venice Biennial, ARTEC Nagoya, Dak'art Senegal. With more than 100 solo shows at art museums and galleries in Europe and overseas, the artist has realized numerous art projects in urban public space and is represented in public and private collections all over the world. [www.majaspasova.com](http://www.majaspasova.com)

## **Malgorzata Dawidek**

Malgorzata Dawidek is a Polish born visual artist, writer and art historian (PhD). Her practice is focused on a conflict between the human corporeality and discursive language. She studies the female body as a text and storage of individual and group memories. She is interested in the extreme states of the body, its anatomy, aspects of gender, inexpressible emotions, physical limitations and mental blockages. [www.dawidek.art.pl](http://www.dawidek.art.pl)

## **Megan Visser**

Megan Visser (b. 1995), lives and works in London) recently graduated from UAL Wimbledon College of Arts and received a BA in Fine Art: Painting.

Recent shows include 'Coyote Ugly' Galeria Alecrim50, Lisbon, Portugal; 'Wimbledon College of Arts Degree Show', London, 2017; 'Behind Bars', The Old Police Station, New Cross, London, 2017; '109 Nails', The Copeland Gallery, Pechkham, London, 2017. Upcoming shows include 'UK Young Artists, Placement and Displacement: Korea 2017', Seoul Museum, South Korea, 2017. [www.meganvisser.com](http://www.meganvisser.com)

## **Melanie Manos**

Melanie Manos is an interdisciplinary artist working in performance, video, print and installation. She earned an M.F.A. from University of Michigan and a B.A. from UCLA. Recent exhibitions include Museum London, Ontario, 2016 and the Zuckerman Museum, Atlanta, 2015. In 2014 Manos was a MacDowell Art Colony Fellow where she created the video "Studio Tidiness." Manos collaborates with Sarah Buckius as The ManosBuckius Cooperative. [www.melaniemanos.com](http://www.melaniemanos.com)

## **Mikio Saito**

Mikio Saito (born in 1978) is a Sapporo-based visual artist. Graduated from University of Waseda, Tokyo, Japan (2000) and Städelschule, Frankfurt, Germany (2007) and holds Master of Fine Arts. He works mostly with video installation.

## **Mieke Vanmechelen**

(b.1974, Belgium) lives and works in Ireland.

She studied at Trinity College Dublin and holds an M.A. from Crawford College of Art & Design. Working with diverse media, her work often deals with the mechanisms and development of human subjectivity in a way that has implications on the patriarchal structures of our societies.

<https://miekevanmechelen.com>

## **Natalie Fyfe**

Natalie Fyfe is an emerging artist and performer who composes with mundane sounds and isolated body parts to create intersections of control between delusion and reality. Natalie is a recent graduate of MA ArtScience at The Royal Conservatoire, The Hague, where she was awarded the Masters ArtScience department Award and the Royal Academy of Art Masters Award for her graduation work Choreography of the Mouth. Natalie is currently based in The Hague, the Netherlands.

<https://www.natalie-fyfe.com/>

## **Rachel Ara**

Conceptual and Data artist Rachel Ara graduated with a Fine Art BA from Goldsmiths College where she won the prestigious Burston award. In 2016, she won the International Aesthetica Art Prize for This Much I'm Worth [the self-evaluating artwork]. Her work is nonconformist with a socio-political edge that often incorporates humour and irony with feminist & queer concerns. Rachel is a Near Now Fellow, awarded to pioneering artists working in technology. From October 2017 she will be taking up residence at the V&A as the VARI Artist in Residence.

## **Riah Jocelyn**

I explore notions of becoming and birth, in relation to gender and race. I question when do we become the things we identify as, or what people identify us as; and transcendence, as in my work, I want to alleviate certain misconceptions and myths, from the bodies of women of colour.  
<http://cargocollective.com/riahjocelyn>

## **SoftTack**

SoftTack are a collaborative. Sarah Jayne Booth, Jennifer Redmond and Mieke Vanmechelen work through sound, film and voice to explore the the act of self-making. Together they imagine a future where 'human' is not a privileged category, described as white and male, and 'humanity' is understood as a more vital, varied and fluid entity.  
<https://softtack3blog.wordpress.com>

## **Sophie Cero**

Sophie Cero records performance using evidential accumulations of life, in multiple form, to extract the essence of time and event. Working across physically embodied and digital media, her work captures time in a paradoxical union of all and nothing, to uncover the *unheimlich* nature of personal domestic space.

## **Sophie Sherwood**

Originally from the coast of Dorset and now based in Bristol, Sophie Sherwood attributes her creative skills to her background; her mother is a jewellery designer and her father was a musician and illustrator. Sophie has strived to be a part of the arts from an early age, studying both photography and fine art at college, and then at Plymouth University. She starts an MA in Photography at the University of the West of England in September 2017.

## **Steph Parr**

Steph Parr uses video, drawing and writing to give meaning to non-meaning: Playing with how an audience can be drawn into a subject, not by spectacle but stillness and observation. Found banalities are framed to give significance and importance to the overlooked, whilst delivering a social comment. [www.stephparr.com](http://www.stephparr.com)

## **Susan Plover**

I am an emerging artist with a strong female narrative. Often my work has a feminist riff and a dark vision. "Gilded Cage," questions the costs of wealth and privilege to a free spirited woman. [www.susanplover.com](http://www.susanplover.com)

## **Theresa Easton**

Printmaking provides a platform for Easton's interpretation of social history and cultural commentary. An artist with a socially engaged practice, Easton enjoys a collaborative approach to developing ideas. Political activism is a driving force in her work. Easton is one of the founding members of the trade union, Artists' Union England. <http://theresaeaston.wordpress.com>

## **Tulani Hialo**

North Eastern born and Manchester based, Tulani Hialo's practice is heavily influenced by her own experience of identity whether it be culturally, visually or conceptually driven. She has a deep interest in socio-political issues surrounding the politics of her mixed race existence. Through the use of colour context, fluid form and performative video pieces she address the themes with a playful aesthetic whilst leaving enough space for the viewer to fill in the gaps in whichever way they choose. [www.tulanihlalo.com](http://www.tulanihlalo.com)

## **Vera Ryklova**

Vera Ryklova is a Dublin based emerging artist, working in lens-based media. She is the winner of the Hotron Art Works Prize for work by a recent graduate (in 2017, Ireland). Her works were featured in exhibitions held in ROI as well as in NI. She explores the subject of a relationship between performance and the sociology of the self in a form of staged video/photographic self-portraits. [www.veraryklova.com](http://www.veraryklova.com)  
[www.verakv6.wixsite.com/vr-the-self](http://www.verakv6.wixsite.com/vr-the-self)





Alison O'Neill has a BA in Fine Art from Falmouth College of Art and an MA in Feminist Theory and Practice in the Visual Arts from the University of Leeds. Alison works in video and drawing using autobiographical narratives as a starting point. Alison is particularly interested in maternal subjectivity at the intersection of class and gender. She exhibits her work nationally and internationally.  
<https://www.axisweb.org/p/alisononeill/>



Taking every opportunity to challenge hierarchy, socially engaged artist/ curator Jane Hellings; chooses, in preference to a dedicated studio space, to work from home, where her practice is immersed in day to day domestic disorder; shows work outside the gallery space; mixes activism with art and often works collaboratively. Her practice grows out of her lived female experience, employs everyday materials and low tech processes and is informed by feminist theory. [www.janehellings.co.uk](http://www.janehellings.co.uk)





Image: Vera Ryklova